



# Office of Pipeline Safety

## Public Meeting on Operator Qualification OQ

**February 25-27, 2003**  
**Hyatt Regency Houston, TX**



# *Panelist* State

- |                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 1. Rick Marini -    | New Hampshire |
| 2. David Born -     | Texas         |
| 3. Ron Wiest -      | Minnesota     |
| 4. Corky Hanson -   | Arizona       |
| 5. Rex Evans -      | Illinois      |
| 6. Mary Mc Daniel - | Texas         |
| 7. Glen Tong -      | California    |
| 8. Danny McGriff -  | Georgia       |
| 9. Ron Passmore -   | New York      |



# *Panelist* Industry

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Byron Ables -    | Haz. Liq.           |
| 2. Mike Burkhardt - | Gas Dist.           |
| 3. Mike Comstock -  | Gas Dist. ( Public) |
| 4. Dan Cote -       | Gas Dist.           |
| 5. Kent Denny -     | Gas Trans.          |
| 6. Deb Haifleigh -  | Haz. Liq.           |
| 7. Tim Kasprzyk -   | Gas Dist.           |
| 8. Daren Moore -    | Gas Trans.          |



# *Panelist* Federal

1. Warren Miller -
2. Richard Sanders -
3. Paul Wood -
4. Dave Waters -
5. Lynn Tessner -
6. John Haddow -
7. Robert Brown -

Central Reg.  
OPS - TSI  
Cycla – Cont.  
Cycla – Cont.  
Southern Reg.  
Western Reg.  
Southwest Reg.



# Web Sites for Reviewing OQ Data

<http://primis.rspa.dot.gov/oq/index.htm>

[http://www.tsi.dot.gov  
/divisions/pipeline/pip\\_PEPG.htm](http://www.tsi.dot.gov/divisions/pipeline/pip_PEPG.htm)

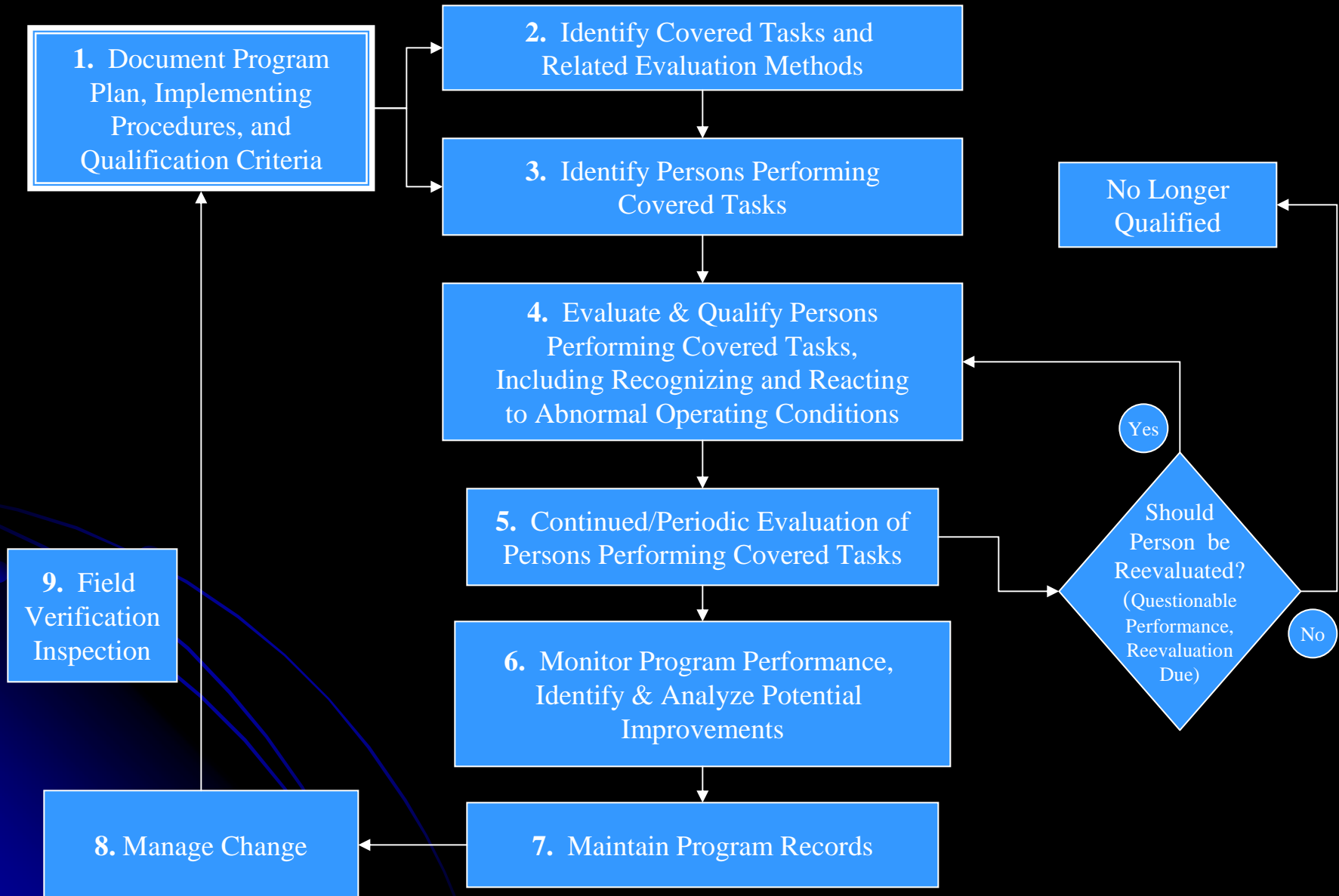
<http://ops.cycla.com/oq>



# New Law

Pipeline Safety Laws  
As amended December 17,  
2002  
By  
Pub. L. No. 107 - 355

# Operator Qualification Rule: Process Flow





# Prioritization of the 13 issues

## High Priority:

Scope of OQ Inspections

Evaluation of KSAs

Reevaluation Intervals

Maintenance vs. New Construction

Treatment of Emergency Response





# Prioritization of the 13 issues

## Medium:

Abnormal Operating Conditions

Additional Covered Tasks

Extent of Documentation

Treatment of Training



# Prioritization of the 13 issues

## Low:

Criteria for Small Operators

Direction/Observation of Non-Qualified  
People

Noteworthy Practices

Persons Contributing to Incidents or  
Accidents



# Meeting Agenda

*Tuesday,  
February 25*

**1:00 PM** – Introductory Remarks

**1:15 PM – 4:00 PM** – Industry Presentation on  
Resolution to 13 Issues

**4:00 PM** – Opportunity for Public Comment

**4:30 PM** – Adjourn



# Meeting Agenda

*Wednesday,  
Morning  
February 26*

**9:00 AM – 11:30 AM** – Continue Industry  
Presentation on Resolution to 13 issues

**11:30 AM – 12:00 Noon** – Opportunity for  
Public Comment

**12:00 – 1:30 PM** – Lunch on your own



# Meeting Agenda

*Wednesday,  
Evening  
February 26*

**1:30 PM – 4:00 PM** – Continue Industry  
Presentation on Resolution to 13 Issues

**4:00 PM – 4:30 PM** – Opportunity for Public  
Comment

**4:30 PM** – Adjourn Public Meeting



# Meeting Agenda

*Thursday, February  
27*

**9:00 AM – 4:30 PM** – (Last Day Available for  
Further Discussion & Questions)



# Definitions

A number of terms contained in the OQ rule and its implementation found in Part 192, Subpart N and its companion rule in Part 195 Subpart G may be unclear and subject to different interpretations by operators and regulatory representatives.

Terms, phrases and definitions need to be defined. **Consensus Standard**



# Definitions

## *Benchmark*

A standard of measurement or evaluation.





# Definitions

## *Criterion*

A standard upon which a judgement is based.



# Path Forward

- Resolving Implementation Issues
  - End of March 2003
- Development of Supplemental Guidance
  - First of June 2003
- Development of a Consensus Standard on OQ
  - June 2004



# Path Forward

- OQ Inspections
  - Congressional Mandate  
Dec. 17, 2005
  - April 2003 to June 2003 – 8 operators
- Development of OQ – CBT Module for Inspectors
  - August 2003 (State & Federal Inspectors)



# Safety for All

Industry

State

Federal

General Public

Unions

Contractors